



APPENDIX "AA"

(CLAIMS)

5 What is claimed is:

R1.126

1. (Cancelled) A device for holding a plurality of items for display, comprising:

a first substantially planar member having a front surface and a back surface;

a second substantially planar member having a front surface and a back surface;

10 means for joining said first and second substantially planar members;

a hub;

a plurality of substantially straight and smooth edges lying in the same plane and

at right angles to each other, situated at 90 degree intervals in relation to said hub

in perpendicular contact with at least a surface of a substantially planar member between

15 said first and second substantially planar members, and having a thickness, thereby forming

a spatial area between said first and second substantially planar members for receiving at

least one item therein;

means for the exertion of interiorly directed pressure by the joined said first and second substantially

planar members on said at least one item when said at least one item is received in said

20 spatial area.

2. (Cancelled) The device for holding a plurality of items for display according to claim 1, wherein:

said first substantially planar is of plastic;

said means for joining said first and second substantially planar members is

a glue-like element;

said plurality of substantially straight and smooth edges are integrally molded with
at least a surface of a substantially planar member;

said means for the exertion of interiorly directed pressure by the joined

said first and second substantially planar members is a gradiated,

5 sloping area having a low end of the slope substantially at the exterior
border edge of a substantially planar member.

3. (Cancelled) The device for holding a plurality of items for display according to claim 2, wherein:

said first substantially planar is of translucent plastic;

said second substantially planar is of plastic;

10 said plurality of substantially straight and smooth edges are of translucent plastic;

said means for the exertion of interiorly directed pressure includes a further at least a
partial textured surface to enhance imparted friction to said at least one item.

4. (Cancelled) The device for holding a plurality of items for display according to claim 3, wherein:

said second substantially planar is of translucent plastic;

15 said hub has a central aperture.

5. (Cancelled) The device for holding a plurality of items for display according to claim 1, wherein:

said first substantially planar is of plastic;

said means for joining said first and second substantially planar members

is sonic welding;

20 said plurality of substantially straight and smooth edges are integrally molded

partially with a surface of said first substantially planar member and partially with

a surface of said second substantially planar member;

said means for the exertion of interiorly directed pressure by the joined

said first and second substantially planar members is a gradated,
sloping area having a low end of the slope substantially at the exterior
border edge of a substantially planar member.

6. (Cancelled) The device for holding a plurality of items for display according to claim 1, wherein:

5 said means for joining said first and second substantially planar members is

 a snap-type means;

 said plurality of substantially straight and smooth edges are formed of a separate

 element placed in contact with at least a surface of a substantially planar member

 and irremovably fixed in contact with said at least a surface of a

10 substantially planar member;

 said means for the exertion of interiorly directed pressure by the joined

 said first and second substantially planar members is an interiorly protruding member

 designed to engage said at least one item when said at least one item

 is received in said spatial area.

15 7. (Cancelled) The device for holding a plurality of items for display according to claim 1, wherein:

 said means for joining said first and second substantially planar members is

 a radio frequency (RF) weld;

 said plurality of substantially straight and smooth edges are integrally molded

 partially with a surface of said first substantially planar member;

20 said means for the exertion of interiorly directed pressure is at least a

 partial textured surface to enhance imparted friction to said at least one item.

8. (Cancelled) The device for holding a plurality of items for display according to claim 1, wherein:

said means for joining said first and second substantially planar members is

a radio frequency (RF) weld;

said interiorly protruding member designed to engage said at least one item

when said at least one item is received in said spatial area is integrally

5 molded into at least a surface of a substantially planar member,

9. (Cancelled) The device for holding a plurality of items for display according to claim 1, wherein:

said means for the exertion of interiorly directed pressure is the insertion of a separate, gradiated

item;

10. (Cancelled) A device for holding a plurality of items for display, comprising:

10 a first substantially planar member having a front surface and a back surface;

a second substantially planar member having a front surface and a back surface;

means for joining said first and second substantially planar members;

a hub;

a plurality of substantially straight and smooth edges lying in the same plane and

15 in perpendicular contact with at least a surface of a substantially planar member between

said first and second substantially planar members, and having a thickness, thereby forming

a spatial area between said first and second substantially planar members for receiving at

least one item therein;

means for the exertion of interiorly directed pressure by the joined

20 said first and second substantially planar members on said at least one item

when said at least one item is received in said spatial area.

11. (Cancelled) The device for holding a plurality of items for display according to claim 10, wherein:

said means for joining said first and second substantially planar members is a glue-like element;

said plurality of substantially straight and smooth edges are integrally molded at a pre-determined degree in relation to each other;

said means for the exertion of interiorly directed pressure is the insertion of a separate, gradiated item;

5 12. (Cancelled) A device for holding a plurality of items for display, comprising:

a first substantially planar member having a front surface and a back surface;

a second substantially planar member having a front surface and a back surface;

a third substantially planar member having a front surface and a back surface;

means for joining said first and third substantially planar members to

10 said second substantially planar member;

a hub;

a first set of a plurality of substantially straight and smooth edges lying in the

same plane and at right angles to each other, situated at 90-degree intervals in

relation to said hub in perpendicular contact with at least a surface of a substantially planar

15 member between said first and second substantially planar members, and having a

thickness, thereby forming a spatial area between said first and second substantially planar

members for receiving at least one item therein;

a second set of a plurality of substantially straight and smooth edges lying in the

same plane and at right angles to each other, situated at 90-degree intervals in

20 relation to said hub in perpendicular contact with at least a surface of a substantially planar

member between said second and third substantially planar members, and having a

thickness, thereby forming a spatial area between said second and third substantially planar

members for receiving at least one item therein;

means for the exertion of interiorly directed pressure by the joined said first and second substantially planar

members on said at least one item when said at least one item is received in said spatial area;

5 means for the exertion of interiorly directed pressure by the joined
said second and third substantially planar members on said at least one item
when said at least one item is received in said spatial area.

13. (Cancelled) A device for holding a plurality of items for display, comprising:

a substantially planar member having a front surface and a back surface;

10 a hub;

a plurality of substantially straight and smooth edges lying in the same plane and
at right angles to each other, situated at 90 degree intervals in relation to said hub
in perpendicular contact with a surface of said substantially planar member
and having a thickness;

15 means for holding at least one item in contact with a surface of
said substantially planar member;

14. (Cancelled) The device for holding a plurality of items for display according to claim 13, wherein:

means for holding at least one item in contact with a surface of said substantially planar member is
a glue-like element.

20 15. (Cancelled) The device for holding a plurality of items for display according to claim 14, wherein:

said glue-like element is protected prior to use through removably affixed covering;

said substantially planar member is made of plastic.

16. (Cancelled) The device for holding a plurality of items for display according to claim 15, wherein:

said glue-like element is repositionable glue;
said removably affixed covering is made of paper;
said substantially planar member is made of translucent plastic.

(AMENDED: ORIGINALLY “21” NOW)

- 5 17. (Cancelled) A device for holding a plurality of items for display, comprising:
- a first substantially planar member having a front surface and a back surface;
 - a second substantially planar member having a front surface and a back surface;
 - means for joining said first and second substantially planar members;
 - a hub;
 - 10 a plurality of substantially straight and smooth edges lying in the same plane and at right angles to each other, situated at 90 degree intervals in relation to said hub in perpendicular contact with at least a surface of a substantially planar member between said first and second substantially planar members, and having a thickness, thereby forming a spatial area between said first and second substantially planar members for receiving at least one item
 - 15 therein;
- means for the exertion of interiorly directed pressure by the joined said first and second substantially planar members on said at least one item when said at least one item is received in said spatial area.

(AMENDED: ORIGINALLY “22” NOW)

- 20 18. (Cancelled) The device for holding a plurality of items for display according to claim 1, wherein:
- said first substantially planar is of plastic,
 - said means for joining said first and second substantially planar members is a glue-like element;
 - said plurality of substantially straight and smooth edges are integrally molded with

at least a surface of a substantially planar member,

said means for the exertion of interiorly directed pressure by the joined said first and

second substantially planar members is a graduated, sloping area having a low end

of the slope substantially at the exterior border edge of a substantially planar member.

5 (AMENDED: ORIGINALLY “23” NOW)

19. (Cancelled) The device for holding a plurality of items fix display according to claim 2, wherein:

said first substantially planar is of translucent plastic;

said second substantially planar is of plastic;

said plurality of substantially straight and smooth edges are of translucent plastic;

10 said means for the exertion of interiorly directed pressure includes a further at least-a
partially textured surface to enhance imparted friction to said at least one item.

(AMENDED: ORIGINALLY “24” NOW)

20. (Cancelled) Tile device for holding a plurality of items for display according to claim 3, wherein:

said second substantially planar is of translucent plastic;

15 said hub has a central aperture.

(AMENDED: ORIGINALLY “25” NOW)

21. (Cancelled) The device for holding a plurality of items for display according to claim 1, wherein:

said first substantially planar is of plastic;

20 said means for joining said first and second substantially planar members is sonic welding;

said plurality of substantially straight and smooth edges are integrally molded

partially with a surface of said fast substantially planar member and partially with a surface

of said second substantially planar member,

said means for the exertion of interiorly directed pressure by the joined said first and
second substantially planar members is a gradiated, sloping area having a low end
of the slope substantially at the exterior border edge of a substantially planar member.

(AMENDED: ORIGINALLY "26" NOW)

- 5 22. (Cancelled) The device for holding a plurality of items for display according to claim 1, wherein:
said means for joining said first and second substantially planar members is a snap-type means;
said plurality of substantially straight and smooth edges are formed of a separate element placed
in contact with at least a surface of a substantially planar member and irremovably fixed in
contact with said at least a surface of a substantially planar member, said means for the
10 exertion of interiorly directed pressure by the joined said first and second substantially
planar members is an interiorly protruding member designed to engage said at least one
item when said at least one item is received in said spacial area.

(AMENDED: ORIGINALLY "27" NOW)

- 15 23. (Cancelled) The device for holding a plurality of items for display according to claim 1, wherein:
said means for joining said first and second substantially planar members is
a radio frequency (RF) weld;
said plurality of substantially straight and smooth edges are integrally molded
partially with a surface of said first substantially planar member,
said means for the exertion of interiorly directed pressure is at least a
20 partial textured surface to enhance imparted friction to said at least one item.

(AMENDED: ORIGINALLY "28" NOW)

24. (Cancelled) The device for holding a plurality of items for display according to claim 1, wherein:
said means for joining said first and second substantially planar members is

a radio frequency (RF) weld;

said interiorly protruding member designed to engage said at least one item

when said at least one item is received in said spatial area is integrally

molded into at least a surface of a substantially planar member,

5 (AMENDED: ORIGINALLY “29” NOW)

25. (Cancelled) The device for holding a plurality of items for display according to claim 1, wherein:

said means for the exertion of interiorly directed pressure is the insertion of

a separate, gradiated item;

(AMENDED: ORIGINALLY “30” NOW)

10 26. (Cancelled) A device for holding a plurality of items for display, comprising:

a first substantially planar member having a front surface and a back surface;

a second substantially planar member having a front surface and a back surface;

means for joining said first and second substantially planar members,

a hub;

15 a plurality of substantially straight and smooth edges lying in the same plane and

in perpendicular contact with at least a surface of a substantially planar member

between said first and second substantially planar members, and having a

thickness, thereby forming a spacial area between said first and second

substantially planar members for receiving at least one item therein;

20 means for the exertion of interiorly directed pressure by the joined said first and

second substantially planar members on said at least one item when

said at least one item is received in said spacial area.

(AMENDED: ORIGINALLY “31” NOW)

27. (Cancelled) The device for holding a plurality of items for display according to claim 10, wherein:

said means for joining said first and second substantially planar members is

a glue-like element;

said plurality of substantially straight and smooth edges are integrally molded

at a pre-determined degree in relation to each other;

said means for the exertion of interiorly directed pressure is the insertion of

a separate, eradiated item;

(AMENDED: ORIGINALLY "32" NOW)

28. (Cancelled) A device for holding a plurality of items for display, comprising:

a first substantially planar member having a front surface and a back surface;

a second substantially planar member having a front surface and a back surface;

a third substantially planar member having a front surface and a back surface;

means for joining said first and third substantially planar members to

said second substantially planar member,

a hub;

a first set of a plurality of substantially straight and smooth edges lying in the

same plane and at right angles to each other, situated at 90-degree intervals in

relation to said hub in perpendicular contact with at least a surface of a

substantially planar member between said first and second substantially planar

members, and having a thickness, thereby forming a spatial area between said

first and second substantially planar members for receiving at least one item therein;

a second set of a plurality of substantially straight and smooth edges lying in the

same plane and at right angles to each other, situated at 90-degree intervals in

relation to said hub in perpendicular contact with at least a surface of a substantially planar member between said second and third substantially planar members, and having a thickness, thereby forming a spatial area between said second and third substantially planar members for receiving at least one item therein;

5 means for the exertion of interiorly directed pressure by the joined said first and second substantially planar members on said at least one item when said at least one item is received in said spatial area;

means for the exertion of interiorly directed pressure by the joined said second and third substantially planar members on said at least one item when said at least one item
10 is received in said spatial area.

(AMENDED: ORIGINALLY “33” NOW)

29. (Cancelled) A device for holding a plurality of items for display, comprising:

a substantially planar member having a front surface and a back surface;
15 a hub;
a plurality of substantially straight and smooth edges lying in the same plane and at right angles to each other, situated at 90 degree intervals in relation to said hub in perpendicular contact with a surface of said substantially planar member and having a thickness;

20 means for holding at least one item in contact with a surface of said substantially planar member,

(AMENDED: ORIGINALLY “34” NOW)

30. (Cancelled) The device for holding a plurality of items for display according to claim 13, wherein:

means for holding at least one item in contact with a surface of

said substantially planar member is a glue-like element.

(AMENDED: ORIGINALLY “31” NOW)

31. (Cancelled) The device for holding a plurality of items for display according to claim 14, wherein:

5 said glue-like element is protected prior to use through removably affixed covering

 said substantially planar member is made of plastic.

(AMENDED: ORIGINALLY “36” NOW)

32. (Cancelled) The device for holding a plurality of items for display according to claim 15, wherein:

 said glue-like element is repositionable glue, said removably affixed covering is made of paper;

10 said substantially planar member is made of translucent plastic.

This listing of claims is presented as a replacement of all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

15 **Claims 1-32 (cancelled)**

Claim 33 (new): A device for holding a plurality of items for display, comprising:

 a first substantially planar member having a front surface and a back surface;

20 a second substantially planar member having a front surface and a back surface;

 at least four substantially straight and smooth edges having a pre-determined

 thickness, at least a front surface and a back surface and lying in the same plane at

 right angles to each other, situated at 90 degree intervals in perpendicular relation

 each other, thereby forming a cruciform configuration having a central hub, and

25 whose said front and back surfaces are respectively substantially fully in contact with

 at least a surface of either said first and second substantially planar members,

forming, as a result, a spacial area between said first and second substantially planar members for receiving at least one item to be introduced therein;
means for joining said first and second substantially planar members;
means for the joined said first and second substantially planar members to exert
5 an interiorly directed pressure on said at least one item when said at least one item is introduced into said spacial area.

Claim 34 (new): The device for holding a plurality of items for display according to claim 33, wherein:

said first substantially planar member is of plastic;
10 said second substantially planar member is of plastic;
said means for joining said first and second substantially planar members is
a radio frequency-type sonic weld;
said at least four substantially straight and smooth edges are integrally molded with
at least a surface of one of said substantially planar members;
15 said means for the exertion of interiorly directed pressure by the joined
said first and second substantially planar members is a gradiented,
sloping area formed on at least one interiorly facing surface of one of said
substantially planar members, having a low end of the slope substantially at
the exterior border edge of said gradiented substantially planar member.

20
Claim 35 (new): The device for holding a plurality of items for display according to claim 34, wherein:

said first substantially planar is of translucent plastic;
said means for the exertion of interiorly directed pressure includes at least a partially

textured surface on an interiorly facing surface of a said substantially planar member
in order to impart an enhanced friction on said at least one item when said at least
one item is introduced into said spacial area.

- 5 Claim 36 (new): The device for holding a plurality of items for display according to claim 35, wherein:
said hub has a central aperture.

Claim 37 (new): A device for holding a plurality of items for display, comprising:

- 10 a first substantially planar member having a front surface and a back surface;
a second substantially planar member having a front surface and a back surface;
at least four substantially straight and smooth edges having a pre-determined
thickness, at least a front surface and a back surface and lying in the same plane at
right angles to each other, situated at 90 degree intervals in perpendicular relation
each other, thereby forming a cruciform configuration having a central hub, and
15 whose said front and back surfaces are respectively substantially fully in contact with
at least a surface of either said first and second substantially planar members,
forming, as a result, a spacial area between said first and second substantially planar
members for receiving at least one item to be introduced therein;
means for joining said first and second substantially planar members;
20 means for the joined said first and second substantially planar members to exert
an interiorly directed pressure on said at least one item when said at least
one item is introduced into said spacial area.

Claim 38 (new): The device for holding a plurality of items for display according to claim 37, wherein:

said first substantially planar is of plastic;

said means for joining said first and second substantially planar members

is a glue-like element;

5

said at least four substantially straight and smooth edges are separately molded;

means for attaching said at least four substantially straight and smooth edges partially

with a surface of said first substantially planar member and partially with

a surface of said second substantially planar member;

said means for the exertion of interiorly directed pressure by the joined

10

said first and second substantially planar members is a gradiented,

sloping area having a low end of the slope substantially at the exterior

border edge of said gradiented substantially planar member.

Claim 39 (new): The device for holding a plurality of items for display according to claim 38, wherein:

15

said means for attaching said separately molded, at least four substantially straight

and smooth edges partially with a surface of said first substantially planar member

and partially with a surface of said second substantially planar member is taken from

the group consisting of sonic welding and gluing.

20

Claim 40 (new): The device for holding a plurality of items for display according to claim 37, wherein:

said means for joining said first and second substantially planar members is

a snap-type means;

said means for the exertion of interiorly directed pressure by the joined

said first and second substantially planar members is an interiorly protruding member designed to engage said at least one item when said at least one item is received in said spacial area.

5 Claim 41 (new): The device for holding a plurality of items for display according to claim 37, wherein:

said glue-like element is repositionable glue;

said removably affixed covering is made of paper;

said substantially planar member is made of translucent plastic.

10 Claim 42 (new): A device for holding a plurality of items for display, comprising:

a first substantially planar member having a front surface and a back surface;

a second substantially planar member having a front surface and a back surface;

at least three substantially straight and smooth edges having a pre-determined

thickness, at least a front surface and a back surface and lying in the same plane at

15 right angles to each other, situated at 90 degree intervals in perpendicular relation

each other, thereby forming a "T-like" configuration having a central hub, and whose

said front and back surfaces are respectively substantially fully in contact with at least

a surface of either said first and second substantially planar members, forming, as a

result, a spacial area between said first and second substantially planar members for

20 receiving at least one item to be introduced therein;

means for joining said first and second substantially planar members;

means for the joined said first and second substantially planar members to exert

an interiorly directed pressure on said at least one item when said at least

one item is introduced into said spacial area.

Claim 43 (new): A device for holding a plurality of items for display, comprising:

A unitary, substantially planar member having an interior crevice defining

5 a first holding planar member and a second holding planar member;

said crevice being deep enough to permit the insertion of an item;

said interior walls of said crevice being substantially smooth and having interior

walls at 90-degrees in relation to each other;

R.1.126

10 Claim 44 (New): A structural interconnection device for joining display elements comprising:

a first substantially planar member having a back side and a front side;

a second substantially planar member having a back side and a front side configured with a
gradient of a pre-determined angle sloping with the lower edge of the gradient located at the outer
perimeter of the member;

15 means for joining the back side of said first substantially planar member with the front side of
said second substantially planar member at the highest point of said gradient, thereby defining an opening
therebetween for accommodating the insertion and retention of at least one display element;

Claim 45(New): A structural interconnection device for joining display elements comprising:

20 a first substantially planar member having a back side and a front side;

a second substantially planar member having a back side and a front side configured with a
gradient of a pre-determined angle sloping with the lower edge of the gradient located at the outer
perimeter of the member;

means for joining the back side of said first substantially planar member with the front side of said second substantially planar member, thereby defining an opening therebetween for accommodating the insertion and retention of a display element;

a central hub;

5 axially emanating from said central hub, at least three smooth, raised sections of pre-determined height and width which define interior sections within the opening formed between said joined first and second substantially planar members thereby serving as guides for the insertion of at least one display element;

10 Claim 46 (New): The device of Claim XX, wherein:

first substantially planar member is translucent;

said smooth raised sections are spaced apart at equal angles.

Claim 47 (New): A structural interconnection device for joining display elements comprising:

15 a first substantially planar member having a back side and a front side;

a second substantially planar member having first and second sides each side being configured with a gradient of a pre-determined angle sloping with the lower edge of the gradient located at the outer perimeter of the member;

a third substantially planar member having a back side and a front side;

20 means for joining the back side of said first substantially planar member with the first side of said second substantially planar member, thereby defining an opening therebetween for accommodating the insertion and retention of a display element, and the joining of the back side of said third substantially

planar member with the second side of said second substantially planar member thereby defining an opening therebetween for accommodating the insertion and retention of a display element;

a central hub;

5 serving as guides for the insertion of at least one display element, at least three smooth, raised sections of pre-determined height and width located on each side of said second substantially planar member, axially emanating from said central hub, thereby defining interior sections within the openings formed between said joined first and second, and said third and second substantially planar members.

Claim 48 (New): The device of Claim XX, wherein:

10 said first substantially planar member is translucent;
said smooth raised sections are spaced apart at equal angles.

15